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surface; and

(b) contacting the catalyst on the substrate surface with a material that undergoes a metathesis reaction and forming a coating on the substrate surface at room temperature.

55. Cancelled.

58. Cancelled

B2 59. A method according to claim 53 wherein step (a) occurs at room temperature.

B 3 60. A method according to claim 53 wherein the catalyst is stable in the presence of moisture and oxygen.

REMARKS

Patentable distinctions are submitted by the amendments and Remarks herein. Applicants submit that claims as amended and dependent claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amended Claims marked-up version

53. A method for providing a coating on a substrate surface said coating has a thickness that is less than the thickness of said substrate the method comprising:

- (a) providing a ring opening metathesis catalyst at the substrate surface; and
- (b) contacting the catalyst on the substrate surface with a material that undergoes a metathesis reaction [to form] and forming a coating on the substrate surface at room temperature.

55. Cancelled.

58. Cancelled

59. A method according to claim 53 wherein [steps (a) –(b) occur] step (a) occurs at room temperature.

71. A method according to claim 53 wherein the catalyst is stable in the presence of moisture and oxygen [and can initiate polymerization of the metathesible material upon contact at room temperature].

Comments on Substance of Interview

1. The BFGoodrich reference (EP 0 424 833 B1) is a reaction injection molding process that requires application of heat with the injection of ROMP monomers into a mold chamber that contains fibers coated with a classical olefin metathesis catalyst (requiring a co-catalyst). The individual fibers become embedded in a matrix of the ROMP composition. The fibers are immersed and completely surrounded by the polymer. This is distinguished from a coating on a surface of the substrate. Applicant's coating is on a substrate, not surrounding the substrate, and the coating does not become a matrix in which the substrate is embedded. The matrix of BFG is infinitely thicker than the fiber thickness. The present coating is distinguished as having a thickness less than the substrate thickness. Whereas the Office has alleged that BFG, the classical catalysts of BFG are sensitive to air, water and functional groups. Several distinguishing elements will be presented for claim 53 therefore.

2. The CIBA reference (WO 97/38036) teaches a mixture of catalyst and applies heat. The catalyst is mixed with the metathesizable material, and is distinguished from a method where catalyst is applied on the substrate, and metathesizable material is contacted on the catalyst-containing substrate.

The CIBA reference teaches that catalyst and metathesizable material are first mixed prior to contacting on a substrate. The present claims exclude a pre-mixture because the catalyst and metathesizable material are each applied separately to the substrate.

3. Claims 53, 55, 58, 59 and 71 will be amended accordingly.